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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,289	03/01/2004	Kati A. Chevaux	1010/0102US4	9500
32260	7590	03/12/2010		
NADA JAIN, P.C. 560 White Plains Road, Suite 460 Tarrytown, NY 10591			EXAMINER WINSTON, RANDALL O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1655	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			03/12/2010	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/790,289

Applicant(s)

CHEVAUX ET AL.

Examiner

Randall Winston

Art Unit

1655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 December 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 75-115 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 75-78 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 79-115 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/22)
- _____ Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
_____ Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgement is made of receipt and entry of the amendment filed on 12/24/2009.

Claims 79-115 have been examined on the merits (Claims 75-78 remain withdrawn from consideration.)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 79-115 stand rejected under 35 US 103(a) as being unpatentable over Romanczyk, Jr (US 5,554,645) in view of Wideman et al. (6,127,421) for the same reasons set forth in the previous OFFICE ACTION which is restated below.

A food product (i.e. non-chocolate) comprising (i) cocoa polyphenol (i.e. a polyphenol compound of formula An of claim 32) and (ii) L-arginine in various amounts is claimed.

Romanczyk teaches (see, e.g. figure 3, column 7 lines 20-27 and entire patent) a food composition comprising a cocoa polyphenol (i.e. a polyphenol compound of formula An of claim 32 is within figure 3 of Romanczyk, named (-) epicatechin) is used for anti-tumor purposes). Romanczyk, however, does not expressly teach that the active ingredient of L-arginine is contained within the claimed food composition nor does

Romanczyk teach all the claimed forms of the food composition and all the claimed amounts/ranges used for anti-tumor purposes.

Wideman beneficially teaches (see, e.g. column 2 lines 30-39) that the incorporation of L-arginine within a food product is used for anti-tumor purposes.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Romanczyk's food composition to include the other claimed active ingredient of L-arginine as taught by Wideman within Romanczyk's food composition because the two above combined teachings as a whole would create the claimed food composition used for anti-tumor purposes. Moreover, as discussed in MPEP Section 2114.06, "it is prima facie obvious to combine two or more compositions each of which is taught by the prior art to be useful for the same purpose (i.e. the active ingredients of cocoa polyphenol and L-arginine used for an anti-tumor purpose), in order to form a third composition to be used for the same purpose." Furthermore, the adjustment of other conventional working conditions (e.g. determining suitable amounts/ranges of each active ingredient (i.e. cocoa polyphenol and L-arginine) within the claimed composition to intrinsically have some and/or any effective functional effect when administered to a subject and the modification of one form for another of the food composition such as non-chocolate pet food and/or as a peanut), is deemed merely a matter of judicious selection and routine optimization which is well within the purview of the skilled artisan.

Accordingly, the claimed invention was *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, especially in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

Please note, the intended use of the above claimed composition (i.e. to induce a physiological increase in nitric oxide) does not patentably distinguish the composition, per se, since such undisclosed use is intrinsic to the composition reasonably suggested by the cited references, as a whole. In order to be limiting, the intended use must create a structural difference between the claimed composition and the prior art composition. In the instant case, the intended use does not create a structural difference, thus the intended use is not limiting (see, e.g., MPEP 2112).

Applicant's arguments have been carefully considered but they are not deemed persuasive. Applicant argues that Applicant respectfully point out that claims now recite a specific maximum amount of cocoa polyphenol per unit dose of the product (i.e. up to 3 g unit dose of product), thus, the numerical limitation must be considered and given due weight when examining the claims because the specific recited amounts would in fact create a structure different composition so as to functionally limit it in terms of nitric oxide (NO) effects. Examiner disagrees with Applicant's argument because as discussed in MPEP Section 2114.06, "it is *prima facie* obvious to combine two or more compositions each of which is taught by the prior art to be useful for the same purpose (i.e. the active ingredients of cocoa polyphenol and L-arginine each are taught to be

used for an anti-tumor purpose), in order to form a third composition to be used for the same purpose.” Furthermore, the adjustment of this type of conventional working condition therein (e.g. determining suitable amounts/ranges of each known active ingredient (i.e. cocoa polyphenol of up to 3 g and L-arginine of at least 10 mg/g) within the claimed composition whereas both active ingredients within the claimed composition are well known to be use for the same purpose of having anti-tumor activity), is deemed merely a matter of judicious selection and routine optimization which is well within the purview of the skilled artisan.

Accordingly, the claimed invention was *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, especially in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

Moreover, Applicant argues that Applicant's claims provide an unexpected benefit as pointed out in the paper filed on 12/16/2008 because the presence of cocoa polyphenol/polyphenol of formula An more L-arginine becomes available for NO production due to reduced competition from arginase. Examiner, however, disagrees with Applicant's paper filed on 12/16/2008 because Applicant's paper filed on 12/16/2008 nor does Applicant's specification demonstrate that a composition with all the claimed ingredients functions better than a composition with just one of the claimed ingredients. (see, e.g. MPEP 716.02). Therefore, Applicant's paper filed on 12/16/2008 and Applicant's specification do not support unexpected results.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Randall Winston whose telephone number is 571-272-0972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terry McKelvey can be reached on 571-272-0775. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RW

/Christopher R. Tate/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1655